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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

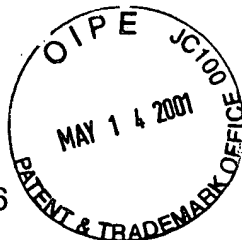
In re the Application of:

Seidel, et al.

Application No.: 09/351,296

Filed: July 12, 1999

For: METHOD FOR SEROLOGICAL TYPING-SPECIFIC ANTIGENS



Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: Zeman, M

Attorney Dkt. No.: P564-9016

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MAY 17 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: May 14, 2001

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated February 14, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-29. A peptide suitable for detecting an antibody against hepatitis C virus, consisting of:

(a) an isolated immunologically active amino acid sequence from the hepatitis C virus consisting of 6-22 amino acids from one of SEQ ID NOs: 12-16;

(b) optionally, an immunologically inactive spacer region coupled to the immunologically active sequence; and

(c) optionally, a solid phase binding group or a marker group coupled to the spacer region.

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